

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 HA-05 TRSE-00 BIB-01 CU-04

ACDA-12 /104 W

-----077258 070901Z /17/70

R 061145Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5298

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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CORRECTED COPY (MRN TO READ 17597 VICE 17595)

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG ID UR

SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON ASEAN

REF: (A) MOSCOW 14616, (B) MOSCOW 17182, (C) JAKARTA 16237

1. DARUSMAN MUST HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO RELATIVELY POSITIVE EDITORIAL ON ASEAN IN NOV. 19 IZVESTIYA REPORTED REF B. WE HAVE SEEN NO SIMILAR ARTICLES ON ASEAN IN PRAVDA AND THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE ON ASEAN IN THE SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS RECENTLY.

2. SOVIET PERSPECTIVE OF ASEAN AND THE SEA REGION WILL CONTINUE TO BE GUIDED BY FACTORS ANALYZED REF A. MOSCOW PRIMARILY SEEKS TO COORDINATE ITS POLICY WITH VIETNAMESE IN THE SEA REGION. ACCORDING TO NOV. 23 STATEMENTS OF SOVIET MFA OFFICIAL REPORTED REF A, MOSCOW SEES VIETNAMESE
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POLICY AS:

-- OPPOSING ASEAN ON BASIS THAT ASEAN HAS TENDENCIES TO DEVELOP INTO AN "ANTI-COMMUNIST MILITARY BLOC";
-- SEEKING TO DEVELOP BETTER BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH SOME INDIVIDUAL ASEAN COUNTRIES.

3. WHILE RELATIVELY UPBEAT, NOV. 19 IZVESTIYA

ARTICLE ALSO REPEATS THE STANDARD SOVIET CHARGES THAT
"CERTAIN CIRCLES IN ASEAN COUNTRIES" ARE HOPING TO
TURN ASEAN INTO A "MILITARY ALLIANCE DIRECTED MOST
OF ALL AGAINST THE INDO-CHINA STATES." WE ANTICIPATE
THAT SOVIET POLICY WILL CONTINUE TO COINCIDE WITH
THE GENERAL VIETNAMESE FOREIGN POLICY COURSE IN SEA.
ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN MOSCOW'S LINE WILL
FOLLOW RATHER THAN PRECEDE HANOI'S INITIATIVES. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW17597
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770453-1263
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771288/aaaacxad.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7f7fa70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 14616, 77 MOSCOW 17182, 77 JAKARTA 16237
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 345077
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON ASEAN
TAGS: PORG, SOPN, ID, UR, ASEAN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7f7fa70a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009